



TSU is the lone SUC awarded by AGAP



Photo Credits: Mr. Ryan R. Ronquillo

Tarlac State University has been named one of the most outstanding accounting offices by AGAP Inc. for the calendar year 2023 during the recently concluded AGAP Annual Convention last October 9, 2024, at the IEC Convention Center in Cebu City.

TSU is the only state university or college in the Philippines to receive such award.

The awardees were chosen based on the recommendation of the Commission on Audit, whose criteria for judging include unqualified COA findings,

which the university has attained for 13 consecutive years, and the accuracy and timeliness of submission of financial reports.

Furthermore, the plaque states that TSU “exemplarily met the criteria set by the AGAP Awards Committee on Accuracy, Timeliness, Reliability, and

Compliance with Accounting and Budgeting Rules and Regulations.”

The Association of Government Accountants of the Philippines, Inc. (AGAP), the award-giving body, aims to organize government financial

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TSU educators honored via National Teachers' Month celeb

Mary Joy B. Manalo



Tarlac State University joined the nation in celebrating the National Teachers' Month on October 4, 2024 at the TSU Gymnasium.

Themed "Joyful Hearts, Strong Bonds: Celebrating Merriment and Camaraderie," the Office of Vice President for Academic Affairs and Office of Human Resource Development and Management organized the festivity with raffle prizes and performances for the TSUian educators.

In a message, VPAA Dr. Agnes M. Macaraeg thanked the teaching personnel for their commitment and dedication to serving the students despite the various challenges they are facing.



Moreover, TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco also acknowledged the faculty members' hard work and their "impact to society."

"We appreciate what you do – you are the creators of knowledge, keepers of hope, and guardians of dreams. Your

legacy is immeasurable, and your effect extends far beyond the classroom," Pres. Velasco said.

The TSU Performing Arts Hip Hop Dance Group prepared a performance to liven up the educators' evening. Likewise, the Supreme Student Council and Board of Governors prepared a special dance number. They also handed out flowers to the faculty members afterward.



In her message on behalf of the students, Hon. Ma. Angelica A. Fresnido, student regent and SSC President, highlighted the importance of the teachers in students' lives.

"Ang mga magulang ay ang nagsisilbing tagaguhit sa mga estudyante samantalang ang mga guro naman ang nagbibigay kulay at bumubuo sa aming kinabukasan," Fresnido said.

"Sa bawat tagumpay na aming natatamo, alam namin na bahagi kayo ng aming paglalakbay. Ang inyong mga sakripisyo at dedikasyon ay palaging mananatili sa aming puso at isipan," she added.

Prizes amounting to 500, 1,000, 2,000, and 3,000 pesos were given to raffle winners, while one faculty member won a brand-new phone.

The celebration was also graced by some members of the Board of Regents, namely Hon. Cherie Lyn F. Onia and Hon. Winifredo L. Luis, as well as the university's key officials.

CHEDRO 3 recommends TSU's MA Counseling program offering

Maria Adelaida D. Calayag

The Commission on Higher Education Technical Committee for Guidance and Counseling and the CHED Regional Quality Assessment Team highly recommended the Master of Arts in Counseling for a Certificate of Program Compliance on October 9, 2024, during the closing program of the on-site validation at the CASS Theater Room.

Dr. Roel Anicas, CHED Education Supervisor II, said the university's psychology program has exceeded the number of qualified faculty members required to offer the Master of Arts in Counseling program.

"The program is highly recommended upon submission of stated recommendations," Dr. Anicas said.

The Master of Arts in Education major in Guidance and Counseling (former name of MAC) was first offered under the College of Education. Previously, CHED visited the program for its COPC, but the RQAT decided to give the COPC only if the program is transferred to CASS.

Dr. Anicas said the



psychology faculty members only need to design a program, review prerequisite subjects and cognates, and prepare a syllabus that includes local publications and a practicum course.

He also suggested reducing the number of units

from 39 to 33, strengthening the internet connection in the IT laboratory, and installing two-way mirrors and speakers.

"We're very glad na nakapasa ang ating Master of Arts in Counseling, and we are very grateful [to] the CHED Technical Committee for Guidance and Counseling for providing us assistance in terms of assessment and evaluation. And we hope to be able to receive the Certificate of Program Compliance before we start the semester for the master's program. We are excited to open it, and hopefully, by next [the next trimester], we will be able to do it," Dr. Editha Villavicencio, MAC chairperson, said in an interview.

Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Agnes M. Macaraeg thanked the RQAT and the Technical Committee for their effort, saying that all recommendations are 100 percent doable.

"With the kind of

support, commitment, and service that you are providing to the university and our program, specifically, we know that success is just around the corner. Sabi nga po natin, 'Success is not an accident, but success is a product of our hard work. Success is a product of our teamwork, and success is a product of our good interpersonal relationship,' and that is what we have here at Tarlac State University," VP Macaraeg said.

In a message read by Dr. Ronnie A. Dungo, executive secretary, TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco emphasized the need to follow the requirements of CHED before offering a new program and to continue the culture of quality in the university.

"Always remember that we do assessments to highlight our strengths, maintain the practices and approaches that we use best, and enhance what is necessary as well. Likewise, we



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TSU ensures 'husay at tatag' in 2024 Foundation Week celeb

Mary Joy B. Manalo



Bearing the theme "TSU Marilag: Husay at Tatag," Tarlac State University celebrated its 118th founding and 35th universityhood anniversary last October 15-19, 2024.

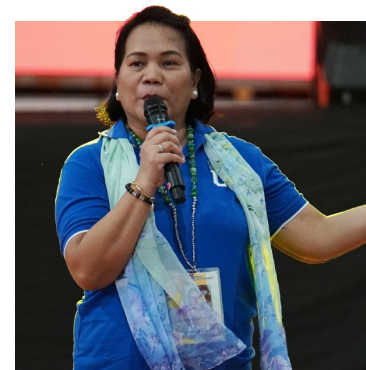
The week-long celebration is a way to honor the university's enduring legacy of resilience and commitment since its founding in 1906 and universityhood in 1989.

Festivities kicked off with a thanksgiving mass presided by Rev. Fr. Robert Cabrera at the TSU Gymnasium.

"Kung titingnan mo ngayon, malayo na ang narating ng TSU. Thirty-five years were not perfect years. TSU has been

tested by fire and storms of life pero hanggang ngayon siya ay marilag dahil ang kaniyang pundasyon ay mahusay at matatag," Fr. Cabrera shared in his homily, reflecting on the theme.

Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Agnes M. Macaraeg echoed the same sentiments in her opening remarks, highlighting the



importance of TSU's roots.

"Without the foundation of all those people who were with TSU when it started, who we are right now as 'marilag' is simply because of our 'husay and tatag,'" she said.

After the holy mass, the streets along Romulo Boulevard were filled with float parades and street dancers adorned with props and costumes. Each campus cluster (Main, Lucinda, and San Isidro) showcased their chosen festivals from Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao.

This year's celebration also featured the first simultaneous tree-planting activity of the TSU Non-Academic Staff Association at the campuses in Tarlac City.

In a message, Vice President for Administration Atty.



Wilmark J. Ramos highlighted the essence of the activity and aligned it with TSU's anniversary.

"Gaya po natin ngayon na magtanim, 'yung mga ninuno natin sa TSU nagtanim din sila. Hindi man nagtanim ng puno na nakikita natin pero nagtanim sila ng kung ano 'yung inaani natin ngayong ika-118 years ng unibersidad tulad ng international recognition, kalidad ng turo, at pagbibigay ng benepisyo sa community," VP Ramos said.

Likewise, the TSU Federated Faculty Union upheld its tradition of welcoming faculty members with plantilla from

2019 to the present.

Moreover, the students enjoyed the annual hydrofoam and color fun run, Battle of the Bands, Mr. and Ms. TSU, intercollege artistic dance contest, hip hop and contemporary dance competition, and the Org Olympics prepared by the Supreme Student Council.

Aside from the students, the employees were engaged in activities led by the Office of International Affairs and Linkages during the 57th ASEAN

Day celebration on October 15 and 16.

Some teaching and non-teaching personnel showcased their cooking prowess in the ASEAN cook-off and their beauty and wit in the search for the university's Mr. and Ms. ASEAN.

Furthermore, to recognize the workforce who contributed to the university's legacy for the past ten to 40 years, TSU conducted the "Gawad Sinag Kandili" Service Awards 2024 on October 17.

"One of the factors influencing our performance is you. Your commitment and dedication have been the cornerstone of our success," TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco said to the awardees.

Meanwhile, to give back to the community, the TSU Alumni Association Inc. and the Office of Alumni Affairs organized an extension and feeding program on the morning of the last day of the celebration at Brgy. Balete in Tarlac City after the alumni motorcade. Alumni

scholars were also awarded financial assistance as part of the activities.

To cap off the Foundation Week on October 19, the Scholarship and Financial Assistance Unit, under the Student Affairs Services, held the first Gawad Parangal to recognize the notable scholars who graduated with Latin honors, received awards, and excelled academically and to highlight the scholarship benefactors and providers.



Foundation Week Student Activities Winners:

TSU GEW FUN RUN 2024 WINNERS	
1st place	Elmar Torres (College of Criminal Justice Education)
2nd place	Aldrin Toyo (College of Criminal Justice Education)
3rd place	Kristopher Reeves D. Ymzon (College of Criminal Justice Education)
4th place	David Cardenas (TSU Alumnus)
5th place	Sherwin G. De Vera (Bachelor of Physical Education Faculty)
6th place	Markson Astrero (College of Education)
7th place	Tirso Felipe (College of Criminal Justice Education)
8th place	Christian Mata (College of Business and Accountancy)
9th place	-----
10th place	Rane Aguinaldo (College of Science)
11th place	Deluyas Kit Israel B. (BIT)
12th place	Phoebaud Enzell P. Pamposa (College of Business and Accountancy)
13th place	Sotto Ren Mark Ibe (College of Computer Studies)
14th place	Mitchel V. Mambuay (College of Public Administration and Governance)
15th place	John Michael Nuqui (College of Engineering)
16th place	Jovan Lee G. Basa (College of Criminal Justice Education)
17th place	Nelson Corpuz (Bachelor of Physical Education Faculty)
18th place	Jericho M. Garcia (College of Education)
19th place	Mariano Jhon Ronniel Tomas (College of Criminal Justice Education)
20th place	Garcia Van Skyler Dela Cruz (College of Engineering)

Foundation Week Student Activities Winners:

MR AND MS TSU	
Mr. TSU	Peter Paul Samson (College of Education)
Mr. TSU 1st runner up	Baron Duane Lumogdang (College of Business and Accountancy)
Mr. TSU 2nd runner up	Alexis Cedric Abagat (College of Computer Studies)
Ms. TSU	Princess Wendy Muldong (College of Science)
Ms. TSU 1st runner up	Jayzhel Apple Manalo (College of Engineering)
Ms. TSU 2nd runner up	Alessandra David (College of Education)

BOOTH COMPETITION WINNERS	
1st Place	United Architects of the Philippines - Student Auxiliary
2nd Place	Young Entrepreneur's Society
3rd Place	TSU Communicator's Guild
Most Creative Booth	United Architects of the Philippines - Student Auxiliary
Most Unique Booth	Young Entrepreneurs' Society
Most Profitable Booth	Young Entrepreneurs' Society

LARO NG LAHI WINNERS			
Activity	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place
Chinese Garter	Jan Andrei Saborboro	Rogelio C. Ramill III	John Mc Miel Guerrero
Dragon Tail	Mary Rose M. Sarsona Angelica Maica Castro Andrea Purungan Christian Mata Elmar Torres	Edward Lyord Mendoza Craven Froy Palma Lloyd Angelo Salas Ercel John Tolentino Kier Aldwin Sosa	Lenny Donato Wilmher Milo Lorraine Ann Navarra Althea Montero Marielle Dizon
Kadang Kadang	Alfred Nikohlai Bernarndo Gabriel Lachica Jastine De Guzman Pamela Grace Corpuz Rc Cleon Abila	Junior Philippine Institute of Accountants: Renzo Louis Lim Chelsea Ceralde Andrew Manalili Eroc Pascual Chrizela Catacutan	Alcala Dominic John Mark Balbin Ronie Vidad Joseph Manabat Victor Bautista
Tug Of War	Junior Philippine Society for Public Administration – TSU (College of Public Administration and Governance): Angelo Espino Jan Mykel Samonte Michael Galuste Joshua Montoyo	Environmental Science (College of Science): Almera Ecle Jeanne Rose Pascual Cabrielle Perez Jonar Ordonio John Mark Quinones	Young Entrepreneurs' Society

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Mr. Ryan R. Ronquillo

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management practitioners to be highly competent and accountable professionals.

Representing the university in receiving the award are TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco and Dr. Grace N. Rosete, former vice president for administration, alongside Finance Director Mr. John Erwin C. Panlilio and Accounting Unit Head Mr. Ryan R. Ronquillo.

“This award is proof that Tarlac State University's accounting office genuinely reflects the university's basic core values of commitment to public service with excellence, compassion, and truth in words, action, and character,” Pres. Velasco said.

He also commended the workforce behind the Office of Finance and the Accounting Unit for their hard work and dedication.

CHEDRO 3 recommends TSU's MA Counseling program offering



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undergo quality assurance to uphold the standards of excellence and eminence to improve our programs at our humble university,” Dr. Dungo read.

In addition to the recommendations for the MAC program, the RQAT recommended to open a non-thesis MAC program, given the number of qualified faculty members.

Next year, the college may apply for two more COPCs for the Master of Science in Psychology and Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology.

The evaluation team is composed of Dr. Carmencita Pabiton and Dr. Irene Oael under the CHED Technical Committee, while the CHED RQAT members are Dr. Edna Calma, Dr. Anicas, and Ms. Charity Barrera.



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TSU strengthens IP culture preservation on IP month

Maria Adelaida D. Calayag, Mary Joy B. Manalo



Tarlac State University's International, Differently abled, Indigenous, and Marginalized Student Services Unit formally celebrated the week-long Indigenous Peoples' Month with various activities to promote and preserve IP rights and culture.

The activities, held from October 14 to 18, 2024 at the Student Center in Lucinda Campus, carried the theme "Mga Katutubo at Katutubong Dunong: Pahalagahan, Pangalagaan, at Parangalan."

Members of the Ayta Mag-Antsi and Abelling tribe of Sitio Carag graced the opening ceremony with "Duduro," a traditional prayer, and "Dagaw," an indigenous cultural dance, at the Academic Building, Lucinda Campus.

Student Affairs and Services Director Prof. Gherold



C. Benitez highlighted the importance of the passage of the Indigenous People Rights Act (IPRA) in 1997, which aims to recognize, protect, and promote the rights of IPs.

"Katungkulan po natin lahat ngayon na pangalagaan ang IP bilang pagre-recognize sa kanila na sila ang ating mga ninuno. Atin pong preserbahin (ang) cultural integrity, social justice, at ancestral domain ng mga IPs," Prof. Benitez said.

He also emphasized the university's way of supporting the education of IPs in terms of their college admission.



"Kapag IP, una po namin silang tinatanggap sa aming unibersidad dahil ayaw po natin sila maiwan. Kung meron man tayong pangangalagaan at pahahalagahan, sila po iyon. Amin pong ipinapangako

na sa unibersidad na ito ay ipagpapatuloy po namin ang laban ng IPs," Prof. Benitez added.

In relation to the celebration of the National Indigenous People's Month, the IDIMSS lives its advocacy to conserve and protect the culture and traditions of IPs and pass on indigenous knowledge and practices to the new generation.

Meanwhile, the Tourism Office of the Provincial Government of Tarlac staged an exhibit of the Abelling tribe's artifacts on the ground floor of the Student Center, also at the Lucinda Campus.

Dr. Roland Rivera, former commissioner of the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples, also showed



his support for the university's celebration by attending the closing program.

The week-long celebration featured various activities such as poster and slogan making, photojournalism, spoken word poetry, storytelling, a traditional food contest, Binibini at Ginoong Katutubo, and the indigenous art and poetry contest.

University's move to help IP Students

Mr. Elmer Victoria from the Mag-Antsi tribe led a short cultural sensitivity orientation and shared some of their tribe's beliefs and customs.

He also shared that his eldest child finished architecture at TSU, while his sibling finished

civil engineering at the university and is also a LET passer.

"Sa totoo lang po ay umiyyak yung puso ko kapag may mga institusyon kagaya ng TSU na ang laki ng pangarap para sa mga IPs kaya nagpapasalamat po ako sa TSU dahil sa inyong malasakit sa Ayta community," Mr. Victoria said.

Moreover, Hon. Edna Villegas, San Jose Municipal IP Mandatory Representative (IPMR), thanked the university for their continuous assistance to IP students.

"Napakasaya ko po dahil binigyan po ng TSU ng pansin ang aming mga anak na katutubo para magpursigi sila mag-aral at mayroon din pong ganitong napakaimportanteng selebrasyon para sa aming mga katutubo," Hon. Villegas said.

During the celebration's closing ceremony, TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco reminded the IP students of the importance of education.

"Napakapalad ninyo na kayo ay nabigyan ng pagkakataon na makapag-aral ng libre dito sa TSU. Huwag niyo sanang sayangin ang pagkakataon na ito. Huwag kayong hihinto sa pag-aaral. Mag-focus kayo na makatapos ng pag-aaral," Pres.

Velasco said.

Next GEN-IP President Princess Nathalie Salas, 19, thanked the university for showing inclusivity for the IP students.

"Thank you so much po sa TSU dahil tinanggap po nila kami dito at pati na rin po sa suportang binibigay nila. Inuuna po nila kaming mga IPs – nagkakaroon po kami ng boses at pinapakinggan din po kami ng TSU," Salas said.

Binibini at Ginoong Katutubo 2024

Among the activities this year is the second run of the Binibini at Ginoong Katutubo, featuring fourteen candidates with advocacies on preserving indigenous knowledge while thriving with the advancements of technology, protecting and safeguarding ancestral domain, exercising rights, and being guaranteed decent education.

Jomar Labrador, Ayta Abellen tribe member from the College of Business and Accountancy, was hailed as Ginoong Katutubo 2024, while Mary Rose Sanchez Dela Cruz, Ayta Magan-tsi from the College of Education, was crowned as Binibining Katutubo 2024.



Dela Cruz was applauded with her winning answer that the mother tongue should be first taught at home to prevent its extinction, similar to what she practices with her two children. This sentiment is her reaction to the government's announcement that elementary schools will no longer teach the mother tongue.

She added that IPs have no reason to stop children from learning their native language just because it is no longer included in the curriculum. Instead, they can still preserve it by speaking the language and teaching more IPs to learn it.

Another candidate, Euredel Facun, Ayta Abellen from the College of Criminal Justice Education, intensified his plea to cater education for his fellow IPs in San Jose town.

Facun, the first runner-up for Ginoong Katutubo, left a mark with his answer to tap government agencies to build a university extension campus in his hometown of San Jose.

"Gusto ko po sanang mapalapat sa mga kapatid kong Aeta ang edukasyon sa aming bayan sa San Jose nang sa gayon ay maraming batang patuloy na nangangarap ang matulungan ng TSU. Kami po, napakapalad namin at may IDIMSS sa TSU. Kaya sana po ay maranasan din nilang mag-aral na hindi na iintindihin 'yung pamasaha at bahay na titirhan nila dahil napakalayo po namin," Facun said.

Preserving and promoting IP culture and traditions

Mr. Dax Simbol from the Tarlac Provincial Tourism Office encouraged the students to visit the different centers/museums/offices of the PGT under Gov. Susan Yap, namely the Diwa ng Tarlac, Museo ng Kanlahi, and Nayong Pilipino.

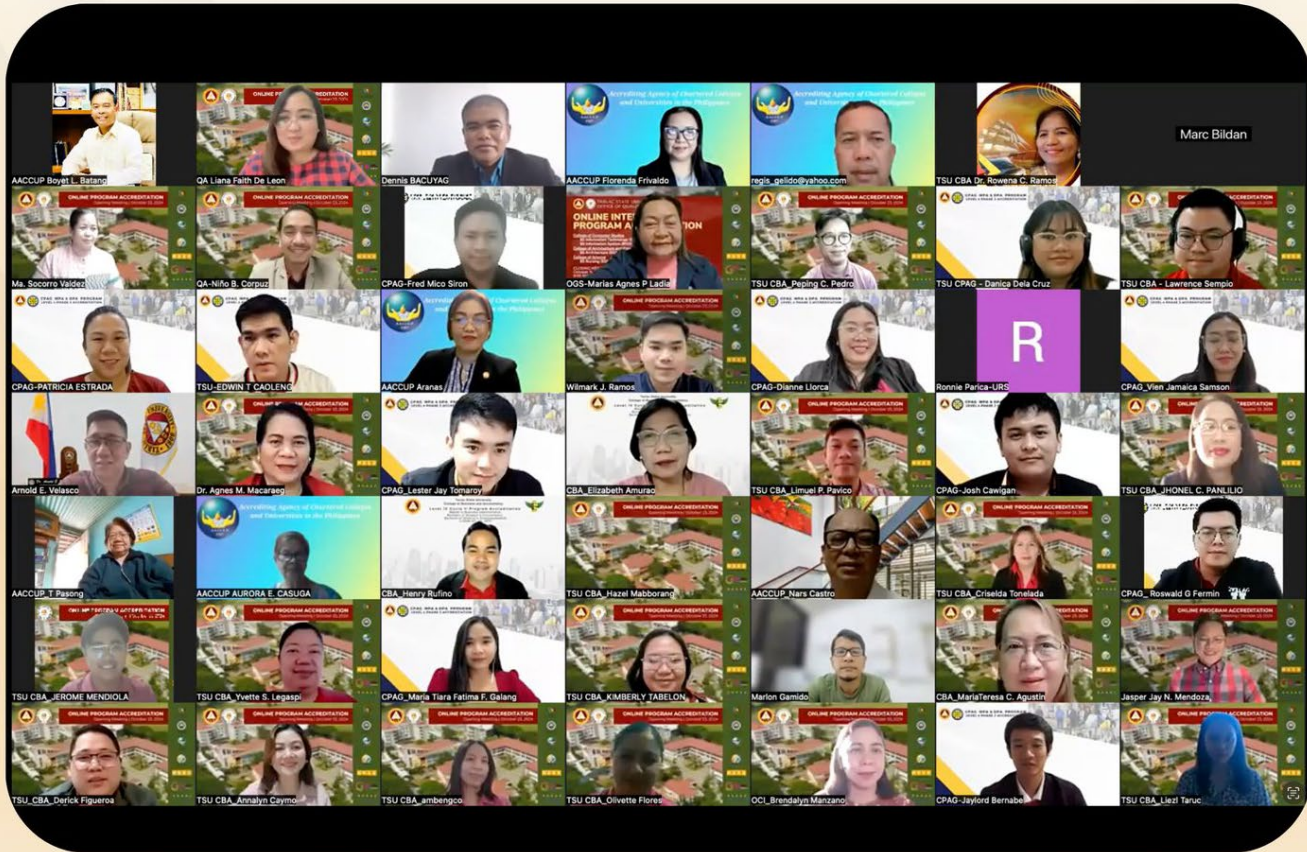
Simbol also mentioned the creation of MEARCK (Multi-Ethnocultural Research Center), which will house artifacts and serve as a research center open for partnerships with the academe, students, or NGOs wishing to find Indigenous Peoples-related research and other cultural-related studies.

IDIMSS Unit Head Mr. Allan Santos said they are exerting efforts to preserve the indigenous culture and help students succeed in their career paths.



CPAG, CBA hurdles program accreditation amid bad weather

Mary Joy B. Manalo



The quest for quality does not stop at Tarlac State University, as the Office of Quality Assurance, CPAG, and CBA continued with the online program accreditation with AACCUP from October 23-25, 2024 despite the inclement weather.

The programs Doctor of Public Administration and Master of Public Administration under the College of Public Administration and Governance and the Master of Business Administration, BS Accountancy, and BS Entrepreneurship of the College of Business and Accountancy underwent the 4th survey visit, 2nd cycle accreditation of the Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines, Inc. (AACCUP).

"It was declared already

that we have no classes and work today because of Typhoon Kristine, but we are all here to render our unselfish service to our dear university. Your dedication and willingness to work for TSU are really admirable and exceptional," TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco said in his greetings during the opening meeting.

Isabela State University's Dr. Boyet L. Batang returns as the overall coordinator of the AACCUP Survey Team after spearheading the 4th survey visit, 2nd cycle of five programs under the College of Education last month.

"I'm glad to be back to Tarlac State University... Our presence here underscores our collective commitment to academic excellence and continuous improvement. And

as we embark on this journey together, let us reflect on the importance of accreditation in enhancing educational quality and fostering trust within our academic community and stakeholders," Dr. Batang said.

He commended the university and the colleges who worked for the accreditation, noting that every day should be "accreditation day."

"As we wait for the final evaluation results for the next two months, let us remember that accreditation is not just a goal but a continuous journey toward excellence. And we salute the men and women of Tarlac State University, particularly the College of Public Administration and Governance and the College of Business and Accountancy," Dr. Batang said during the closing meeting.

The CPAG and CBA deans, Dr. Edwin T. Caoleng and Dr. Jhonel C. Panlilio, offered their full commitment to uphold the recommendations provided by the AACCUP survey team that will continually improve their program offerings.

Likewise, Pres. Velasco, in a message delivered by Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Agnes M. Macaraeg, reiterated the role of accreditation in providing a clear roadmap for the institution.

"Additionally, we will put the recommendations made during the accreditation review into practice, ensuring that your suggestions will have a significant and lasting impact on Tarlac State University's ongoing development," VP Macaraeg read.

Forty-four long-serving faculty members and non-academic staff were honored for their dedication and loyalty to TSU at the "Gawad Sinag Kandili" Service Awards 2024 held on October 17, 2024 at the TSU Gymnasium.

The annual event hosted by the Office of Human Resource Development and Management recognized the workforce who contributed to the university's growth and legacy for the past ten to 40 years.

In his message, TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco thanked the awardees for their service to TSU.

"One of the factors influencing our performance is you! Your commitment and dedication have been the cornerstone of our success," he said.

Pres. Velasco also shared a story of "a cup of hot chocolate," where he emphasized the importance of being contented and happy and making the best of everything that one has.

"Life is a hot chocolate. Your job, title, and positions are the cups. They are just tools to hold and contain life. The cup you have right now does not define nor change the quality of life you have not only in our

Pres. Velasco urges service awardees, TSU employees to 'make the best of everything'

Mary Joy B. Manalo



home but also here in TSU. Sometimes, by concentrating only on the cup, we fail to enjoy the hot chocolate that God provided us," Pres. Velasco shared.

"Let us make the best of everything that we have here at TSU, mababa man o mataas ang ating posisyon. Live simply,

love generously, care deeply, and speak kindly to everyone regardless of status," he added.

Pres. Velasco, together with Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Agnes M. Macaraeg, Vice President for Administration Atty. Wilmark J. Ramos, and Vice President for Research, Innovation, and Extension Dr. Erwin P. Lacanlale, presented the certificates of recognition of the awardees, along with tokens based on the number of years each individual served.

Moreover, the administration also acknowledged the retired faculty and personnel.

"Kilala tayo ngayon bilang TSU dahil sa husay at tatag natin which serves as the foundation of pagiging marilag. We owe this, of course, to our mentors and retired faculty members and non-teaching staff, and we are just continuing what they have started," VP Macaraeg said in her message.

Among the awardees with the longest tenure are Prof. Elizabeth A. Amurao from the College of Business and Accountancy and Assoc. Prof. Arnel A. Punla from the College of Industrial Technology, who have been serving the university for 40 years.

Meanwhile, a posthumous award was also conferred to Mr. Lino C. Taguines III from the Procurement Unit for his six-year service to the university.

Mr. Taguines passed away last February 2024. His award was received by his sister, Ms. Jasmine Fontanilla.

In separate performances, some personnel from the VPRIE and Office of Library Management and Services and OHRDM staff Ms. Judith Sevilla serenaded the awardees.

The awardees also prepared a special dance performance to entertain the guests.



TSU ends foundation week celeb with alumni motorcade, feeding program

Mary Joy B. Manalo

The Tarlac State University Alumni Association Inc. and the Office of Alumni Affairs concluded this year's Foundation Week celebration by awarding financial assistance to alumni scholars and holding a feeding program for the Balete Elementary School students on October 19, 2024.

Part of the financial assistance for scholars is from the Tarlac College of Technology's (now TSU) Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering batch 1989, through a memorandum of agreement signed with the TSUAAI and the university's Scholarship and Financial Assistance Unit in the morning of the same day at the Alumni Center, Lucinda Campus.

Per the agreement, four BSEE students were selected by the BSEE batch '89 as beneficiaries of the financial assistance amounting to 5,000 pesos per semester.

Moreover, Engr. Arnold Guerrero, BSEE batch '89 representative, awarded the first stipend of the engineering students during the program.

In addition, more than 60 scholars also received 185,000 pesos in financial assistance from the different TSUAAI local and international chapters.

In separate messages, TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco and Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Agnes M. Macaraeg thanked the alumni chapters for their continuous



support to the scholars and encouraged others to do the same.

Meanwhile, engineering student Rafael Sadoglio, one of the beneficiaries, thanked the alumni benefactors and assured them they would not waste such an opportunity.

Brgy. Balete extension and feeding program

Two hundred students from Balete Elementary School gathered at the Brgy. Balete covered court for the feeding program organized by the TSUAAI and OAA.

Hon. Reynaldo L. Catacutan, TSUAAI president and alumni regent, led the program with food sponsored

by Café Josefina in coordination with Brgy. Balete officials.

"Nagkaisa kami na pumunta dito para i-showcase namin ang 'adopted school' ng TSUAAI. Umasa po kayo na babalik-balikan po namin kayo dito tuwing may mga programa po kami," Hon. Catacutan said in his message.

Furthermore, Pres. Velasco highlighted the university's active pursuit of helping communities through extension programs.

"Parte po ng mga programa ng TSU ang tumulong, magbigay ng kalinga, serbisyo, at pagmamahal lalong-lalo na sa mga bata," he said.

Apart from the feeding program, the students and some teachers also participated in the games prepared by the OAA.

Said activity is a part of the TSUAAI's C.A.R.E.S. (Committed to Advocating and Reaching everyone through Extension Service) program.

TSU Alumni: Together Strongly United

Nearly 250 alumni from TSU and TCT, together with some of the TSU key officials, gathered to participate in the annual alumni motorcade, which commenced at the Lucinda Campus and concluded at Brgy. Balete.

After the motorcade, the alumni also enjoyed a series of activities filled with games, raffle draws, and prizes from different alumni sponsors.

Moreover, the OAA also led a short awarding ceremony, with the College of Computer Studies awarded as the biggest delegation, the College of Criminal Justice Education as the 'loudest' delegation, and Engr. Fernando Lacsina of TCT batch 1972 as the oldest alumni present for this year's celebration.

Also present during the activity are Hon Fidel S. Feliciano, private sector regent, also the incumbent TSUAAI vice president; Dr. Erwin P. Lacanlale, Vice President for Research, Innovation, and Extension; and other university key officials.

Foundation Week Student Activities Winners:

BATTLE OF THE BANDS	
Champion	Barzaga
1st runner up	The Collectives
2nd runner up	Sonare

ORG OLYMPICS WINNERS	
Champion	League of Young Criminologists
1st Place	ArchCestry
2nd Place	Kaya Natin Youth-TSU



TSU honors scholars, benefactors in pioneering Gawad Parangal

Maria Adelaida D. Calayag



Tarlac State University's Scholarship and Financial Assistance Unit recognized its notable scholars during the 1st Gawad Parangal 2024 on October 19, 2024 at the Priscilla Hall of the TSU Hotel, Lucinda Campus.

Themed "Husay ng Natatanging Iskolar, Iskolar na Mapagmahal sa Bayan," the event aims to highlight the contributions of scholarship benefactors and providers and recognize scholars who graduated with Latin honors, received awards, and excelled academically.

Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Agnes M. Macaraeg told the scholars to grab the opportunities given by benefactors and be grateful. In return, scholars should also pay it forward by helping their own families.

Dr. Lora L. Yusi, CHEDRO III director, and the invited keynote speaker, boosted the scholars' self-esteem in a speech delivered by her representative, Ms. Jeanette Dungca Medina.

"You are not just scholars. You are innovators and change makers. You are 'natatanging scholars' kasi meron kayong pagmamahal sa bayan, hindi lang sa sarili," Ms. Jeanette Dungca Medina read.

Tarlac Second District Representative Christian Tell Yap graced the event and assured the students that they could land jobs in the government sector. He also urged the students to pursue further studies even after graduating.

"Me, as your congressman, kung talagang desidido kayo, I can recommend sa ating mga national government agencies (to provide employment). Marami akong natutulungan sa mga national agencies dahil naniniwala akong kapag natulungan ko ang mga Tarlaqueño na umangat sa gobyerno, tutulungan niyo rin ang mga kapwa Tarlaqueño," Rep. Yap said in his speech.

Present at the event are Col. Regidor Dela Cruz (RET), Scholarship Committee representative/director of the PAFCPIC (Philippine Army

Finance Center Producers Integrated Cooperative), Ms. Karen Danez, DOST Tarlac provincial director, and Mr. James Dela Fuente.



Moreover, Ivan Dizon, BSBA Marketing summa cum laude graduate from batch 2024, former PAFCPIC scholar, and now a lecturer at the College of Business and Accountancy, said PAFCPIC allowed him to "break the cycle of poverty" after experiencing financial struggles and living alone while sending himself to school since high school.

"Degree holder na po kami at saludo po kami sa inyo (scholarship providers). Now, I understand the value of

corporate social responsibility," Dizon said.

TSU Alumni Association President and alumni regent Hon. Reynaldo L. Catacutan was represented by Dr. Jasper Jay N. Mendoza, College of Education dean and Tarlac Masikhay Knights Eagles Club president. The TSUAAI and TMKEC are both scholarship benefactors.

Meanwhile, the Scholarship Unit also lauded and gave a commendation award to Dr. Elsie M. Canlas, former SFAU head.

Dr. Canlas, who retired in January 2024, served under the Scholarship Unit for 38 years.

"Hindi ko po akalain na magre-retire na pala ako kasi hindi naman po ako na-burnout dahil sa mga scholars. Maraming salamat po sa TSU mula sa mga naging past presidents at officials. Sa mga scholars, lagi ninyong tatandaan na may mga tumulong sa inyo sa kung ano mang mararating pa ninyo at ng inyong pamilya. 'Wag kakalimutan ang salitang 'salamat,'" Dr. Canlas said.

TSU recognized by CHEDRO 3 for board exam performance, topnotchers

Maria Adelaida D. Calayag

Tarlac State University received certificates of distinction from the CHED Regional Office III in line with the topnotchers the institution has produced and board exam performance from January to October 2024.

The Commission on Higher Education Regional Office III handed the award during the "Executive Summit of SUC Presidents and Key Officials in Region III" held on October 15, 2024 in Angeles City, Pampanga.

The university recorded topnotchers in the licensure examinations for professional teachers, master plumbers, and psychometricians, showing "commitment to academic excellence and professional competence."



Photo Credits: VP. Wilmark J. Ramos

Furthermore, TSU was also commended for "bringing immense pride and honor" to the region as one of the top-performing schools in the licensure examination for

criminologists.

TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco, Vice President for Administration Atty. Wilmark J. Ramos, and Quality

Assurance Director Dr. Niño B. Corpuz attended the summit and accepted the recognition on behalf of the university.

TARLAC STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
NEWLY LICENSED TSUIAN ENGINEERS AND TECHNICIANS!
OCTOBER 2024 ELECTRONICS ENGINEERS AND ELECTRONICS
TECHNICIANS LICENSURE EXAMINATIONS**

	ECE	ECT	
FIRST-TIME TAKERS	88.24%	94.44%	<div style="text-align: center;"> <p>TARLAC STATE UNIVERSITY</p> <p><small>*with 30 or more examinees</small></p> <p>TOP 3 PERFORMING SCHOOL</p> <p><small>ELECTRONICS ENGINEERS LICENSURE EXAMINATIONS</small></p> </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>SHERWIN MOISES NUQUI</p> <p><small>TOP 3 (90.00%)</small></p> <p><small>ELECTRONICS TECHNICIANS LICENSURE EXAMINATIONS</small></p> </div>
INSTITUTIONAL PASSING RATE	80.00%	90.91%	
NATIONAL PASSING RATE	45.99%	70.77%	

THE TSU COMMUNITY IS VERY PROUD OF YOU!

TSU, PUP forge partnership for academic, cultural advancements

Mr. Henry M. Andres | Department of English Language Studies, CASS



Photo Credits: Department of English Language Studies, CASS

Tarlac State University and the Polytechnic University of the Philippines entered a memorandum of understanding to promote academic and cultural research and development programs on September 26, 2024 at the PUP library in Sta. Mesa, Manila.

The MOU, signed by TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco and PUP President Dr. Manuel M. Muhi, represents a strategic partnership between the two institutions to foster language and cultural research, extension activities, and collaborative academic initiatives.

It covers the Bachelor of Arts in English Language Studies programs of TSU's College of Arts and Social Sciences (CASS) and PUP's College of Arts and Letters (CAL).

Through joint academic exchanges, seminars, conferences, and capability-building programs, TSU and PUP's English Language Studies departments will work

together to produce meaningful research outputs in the areas of translation, literature, and cultural studies that will benefit students, faculty members, and other stakeholders.

The MOU highlights the two universities' commitment and shared goal of responding to the evolving global and academic landscapes.

Both institutions pledged to pool their resources and expertise, ensuring a solid foundation for future research endeavors that will advance their respective academic departments and contribute to the broader educational community.

The partnership promises to open new avenues for both universities to further their contributions to local and international academic discourse in language, culture, and the arts.

College of Arts and Social Sciences Dean Dr. Aloysius T. Madriaga emphasized the importance of this agreement in aligning with the university's mission to create a future-proof

research culture and sustainable development projects, while Dr. Joseph Reylan B. Viray, Research Institute for Culture and Arts director of PUP, noted the significance of collaborative efforts in producing relevant and impactful academic outputs.

The ceremonial MOU signing was facilitated by DELS Head Asst. Prof. Francete O. Caingat and MAEL Chairperson Dr. Myrel M. Santiago.

Meanwhile, Dr. Francelle L. Calub,

internationalization coordinator, and Instr. Howard Aries V. Ronquillo, Center for Peace, Indigenous Peoples Resources and Development unit head also attended the signing.

PUP representatives, including Dr. Anna Ruby P. Gapsin, Vice President for Research, Extension, and Development, and Dr. Rafael Michael O. Paz, College of Arts and Letters Dean, served as witnesses on behalf of their university.



FEATURE

Architect Bildan, a pillar of master plumbing in PH

Maria Adelaida D. Calayag



Photo Credits: Dean Ar. Marco Bildan

College of Architecture and Fine Arts Dean Ar. Marco Bildan was conferred a "fellow" in Plumbing Design and Management for his contributions and service to the Master Plumbing profession during the PSMPE World Trade Center Pasay City last September 19, 2024.

This award is given to active members who have rendered their ten years of membership and frequently support the organization's aims to develop plumbing professionals while using the advancements in plumbing technology.

Dean Bildan also received a plaque and a medal during the event, which was themed "Professionalizing Plumbing: Fostering Career

Progression and Specialization toward International Standard Recognition," as he took part in helping the professional growth of plumbing professionals to be dynamic, responsive, and innovative leaders.

He is an active member of PSMPE, the current vice president for legislative offices, and one of the organization's stockholders.

Dean Bildan also took oath as the academe representative and the second member (position in the CPD council) for the Continuing Professional Development Councils last September 26.

This is his third time being reappointed as CPD's second member (the first was in 2021).

As a second member, Dean Bildan, representing the

master plumbing profession in the Senate, proposed the amendment of CPD in February 2019.

Dean Bildan is often tapped by the organization to conduct lectures on the plumbing profession. He has conducted several lectures with the Philippine Society of Plumbing Engineers (PSPE) National Convention. He also served as the guest lecturer for the Philippine Society of United Master Plumbers Inc. (PSUMP) National Convention in 2018.

He said their organization is pushing for the master plumbing field to become plumbing engineering as the Professional Regulation Commission requires to elevate and develop master plumbing. Currently, PSMPE has around

4,000 members.

Exceptional awards and achievements

In March 2018, Dean Bildan was named the 65th ASEAN Architect at the ASEAN Architects Meet. He was recognized by the PRC as the 2022 Outstanding Master Plumber of the Year during the PRC Awards 2022.

In November 2007, President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo appointed him as a member of the Board of Master Plumbers (PRC BOMP 2007-2009).

He was among the seven passers in the 1993 Master Plumbers Licensure Examination. He is the first awardee in the Tarlac United

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PHOTOS DURING FOUNDATION WEEK 2024

EDITORIAL

Another beginning of promises that could be broken

Incumbent national and local officials and would-be political candidates have already filed their certificates of candidacy this month. This means voters would feel their presence now more than ever as they begin to woo the community in preparation for the 2025 midterm elections. After the 2022 national elections, are the Filipinos ready to embrace a positive kind of change or continue to hold on to the perennial promises that have never been fulfilled?

Filing certificates of candidacy or COCs has always been well-documented in various news formats. Whether voters or non-voters, citizens are invested in updates about who filed for which position

in the national or local posts. Even before the filing, aspiring candidates often grace events and activities as guests of honor or speakers. They are more welcoming of invitations during this period, would opt to appear personally rather than send representatives, and are more generous relative to sponsorships or donations. Is this a mere coincidence or a trend?

Promises are, of course, meant to be fulfilled. But as the famous phrase says, promises are meant to be broken. Clinging on the promises of some politicians renders futility at some point. While some stick to what they proclaim, others have the tendency to let their constituents down. With

this kind of "leadership," the community is at risk of veering away from the positive change most are clamoring for. Thus, the Philippines has remained stagnant as a developing country. Is this because of the political figures, or have the people become numb to the reality around them?

As mentioned, some leaders stick to what they say during the crucial moments of the political timeline. There are still plenty of projects and funding that are pushed through by these key personalities. A few still deliberately choose to discharge their obligations and honor their commitments to the public. Some do it later in their respective terms, while others silently act according

to their duties. It may not be too late for the Philippines, but the discerning kind of voters is imperative to be ready for the desired state a social system wishes to attain.

Regardless of the timing of their participation within the community, what kind of promises do they leave to the people? Could they sustain this kind of public relations, or is it seasonal? After decades and decades of midterm and national elections, where are we as a country? Where are we right now as a community? Are they too good to be true in the beginning, or have they kept their word and worked towards the positive kind of change the Philippines needs?

Architect Bildan, a pillar of master plumbing in PH

From page 17

Architects of the Philippines.

Dean Bildan also served as the former PRC board examiner for the Master Plumbers Licensure Examination.

Service to TSU

The ASEAN architect finished his Bachelor of Science in Architecture at Saint Louis University in Baguio City. He pursued graduate studies at Tarlac State University and completed his Master of Public Administration in 2009.

Dean Bildan served TSU as CAFA Dean from 2001 to 2019 and was reappointed as OIC Dean on August 16, 2022, under Pres. Arnold E. Velasco's term. Presently, he is, again, the full-fledged dean of CAFA.

With his expertise as

a master plumber, he extended his services to the university by producing architectural and master plumbing designs for the TSU Hotel, Interfaith Chapel, and canteen, which are all located at the Lucinda Campus. He also gave a hand to the renovation of the TSU Gymnasium, the new layout of the Office of Admission and Registration, the Business Center, and the five-story College of Computer Studies building.

Meanwhile, his design for the Jose V. Yap Library at the Lucinda Campus, the concept for the butterfly gutter, was featured in the ArchiKonst Magazine, dated April to June 2015. His design for the CAFA building's passive cooling was featured in ArchiKonst Magazine in 2022.





TARLAC STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWLY LICENSED TSUIAN CHEMISTS AND CHEMICAL TECHNICIANS!

OCTOBER 2024 CHEMISTS AND CHEMICAL TECHNICIANS LICENSURE EXAMINATION

	CHEMIST	CHEM. TECHNICIAN
FIRST-TIME TAKERS	100%	86.67%
INSTITUTIONAL PASSING RATE	53.85%	78.95%
NATIONAL PASSING RATE	54.41%	77.83%

THE TSU COMMUNITY IS VERY PROUD OF YOU!



TARLAC STATE UNIVERSITY

Vision

A globally competitive university recognized for excellence in sciences and emerging technologies.

Mission

TSU shall develop highly competitive and empowered human resources fostering responsive global education, future-proof research culture, inclusive and relevant extension programs, and sustainable production projects.

Core Values

T-ruth in words, action and character
S-ervice with excellence and compassion
U-nity in diversity

Quality Policy

Tarlac State University is committed to continuously strive for global competitiveness and excellence in the delivery of instruction, research, extension (training and consultancy), and administrative support services, compliant to regulatory and statutory requirements for the utmost satisfaction of its valued customers while ensuring safe and healthy working conditions for its students, employees, clientele and reducing environmental impact of its operations.